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JAN 24 2005

Appl. No. 09/390,532  
Amdt. dated January 24, 2005  
Reply to Office Action of August 23, 2004

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-5 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter therein.

Claims 1-5 (canceled)

The remaining claims 6-14 are allowed and remain allowed without amendment. No formal objections remain.

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6. (Twice amended) A method for displaying pictograms with a device arranged in a vehicle, the device comprising a control unit and a display unit, in particular a liquid crystal display, controlled by the control unit, the method comprising the steps of

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-3-

- a) displaying the pictograms in symbol fields (2, 3, 4, 5, 6) of the display unit, the symbol fields (2, 3, 4, 5, 6) being arranged one next to the other to form a row of symbol fields,
- b) displaying each pictogram which is to be newly displayed in a specific symbol field (2) of the row of symbol fields until a pictogram with a more recent time priority is to be displayed,
- c) displacing all the pictograms which have already been displayed in the row of symbol fields by one symbol field when a new pictogram is displayed,
- d) expanding the row of symbol fields (2, 3, 4, 5, 6) visible on the display unit at least one of start and end of said row in virtual fashion by invisible symbol fields (7, 8, 9, 10), for displacing pictograms onto these invisible symbol fields (7, 8, 9, 10) if a number of pictograms to be displayed exceeds a number of symbol fields (2, 3, 4, 5, 6) visible on the display unit, wherein a section of pictograms arranged in the visible symbol fields can be displayed on the display unit by a control element (13), wherein said control element (13) is able to displace the row of symbol fields.

7. (Twice amended) The method as claimed in claim 6, wherein a pictogram to be deleted is removed from its location in the row of symbol fields thereby creating a gap in the row of symbol fields and is displayed in a symbol field (2) which is provided for each pictogram to be newly displayed, said

-4-

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pictograms located next to said symbol field (2) are displaced by one symbol field until the gap in said row of symbol fields produced by the removal of the pictogram which is to be deleted is closed again.

8. (Twice amended) The method as claimed in claim 6, wherein the viewing of a pictogram to be deleted can be acknowledged by activating the control element (13) causing the pictogram to be deleted to be immediately removed from the row of symbol fields.

9. (Twice amended) The method as claimed in claim 7, wherein the control unit reverses a preceding displacement of the row of symbol fields, whereby the pictograms last displayed are displayed on the symbol fields (2, 3, 4, 5, 6) which are visible in the display unit, together with that pictogram whose message has been canceled, if, at the time when a message was canceled, the pictograms of the latest messages were not represented in visible symbol fields in the active area of the display unit because the control element (13) had been activated.

10. (Twice amended) The method as claimed in claim 6, wherein a pictogram which is to be deleted is displayed in the symbol field (2) which is provided in the row of

symbol fields for displaying each pictogram to be newly displayed is marked so as to be distinguishable from the other pictograms.

11. (Twice amended) The method as claimed in claim 10, wherein the marking of a pictogram to be deleted comprises inverting a filling-in color and/or background color thereof.

12. (Twice amended) The method as claimed in claim 10, wherein the marking of a pictogram to be deleted comprises at least one of outlining the symbol field or putting a bar through the pictogram.

13. (Twice amended) The method as claimed in claim 6, wherein the control unit closes the gap in the row of symbol fields produced as a result of the deletion of a pictogram by allowing all the pictograms having an older time priority to move on by one symbol field.

14. (Amended) The method as claimed in claim 8, wherein the control unit reverses a preceding displacement of the row of symbol fields, whereby the pictograms last displayed are displayed on the symbol fields (2, 3, 4, 5, 6) which are visible in the display unit, together with that pictogram whose message has been canceled, if, at the time when a

message was canceled, the pictograms of the latest messages were not represented in visible symbol fields in the active area of the display unit, because the control element (13) had been activated.

-7-

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